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TO: Commissioner for  
Patents  
Attn: Examiner UNKNOWN  
Patent Examining Corps  
Facsimile Center  
Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: John J. Gresens

OUR REF: 13599.0002USWO  
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Total pages, including cover letter: 4

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If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at (612) 332-5300, or fax us at (612) 332-9081.

Title of Document Transmitted:  
Applicant: Bertrand Des Clercs  
Serial No.: 10/009,126  
Filed: November 7, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2856  
Our Ref. No.: 13599.0002USWO

Preliminary Amendment

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OCT 09 2002

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By: John J. Gresens  
Name: John J. Gresens  
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PATENT

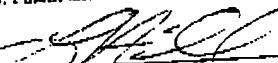
S/N 10/009,126

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bertrand DES CLERS      Examiner: Unknown  
 Serial No.: 10/009,126      Group Art Unit: 2856  
 Filed: November 7, 2001      Docket No.: 13599.2USWO  
 Title: METHOD FOR ANTICIPATING, DELAYING AND/OR PREVENTING  
 THE RISK OF SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION AND/OR EXPLOSION  
 OF AN EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERE

7/B  
Hill  
8-3-03

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 15, 2002.

By: 

Name: Lisa R. Hill

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter  
 the following preliminary amendment:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 7-15 as per the following:

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*Sub. Cl 7.* Process for preventing the risk of spontaneous ignition of an atmosphere of an environment selected from the group consisting of again silo, a center for storing coal dust, industrial dust, animal or plant flours or fertilizers, driftways and fuel optionally incorporated in a vehicle,

wherein the atmosphere being approximately at ambient temperature, the induction time before spontaneous ignition and/or explosion is determined through a measurement of the initial temperature of the atmosphere.

8. Process according to claim 1, wherein the ambient temperature variation over time is measured.